

Miscellanea.

"JAMES'S EARNEST MINISTRY."—Some time ago, we announced that through the liberality of John Henderson, Esq., of Parke, a copy of "James's Earnest Ministry" had been presented to every minister, preacher, and student of the United Presbyterian Church. We understand that arrangements are being made by John Hope, Esq., W. S., Edinburgh, for supplying every minister of the Church of Scotland with a copy of the same excellent work. We trust that these examples will stir up others to similar acts of beneficence.—*Scottish Press*.

MISSIONS AND LITERATURE.—It appeared, by reports at the recent Quarterly Meeting of the American Oriental Society, of which Dr. Robinson is President, that our Missionaries in Asia are making interesting researches into the literature and antiquities of the East. Mr. Merrick has made a translation of Persian traditions relative to the life and doctrines of Mohammed; not yet printed. Rev. D. O. Allen, missionary in India, notices several works on the cave-temples, and other ancient monuments of India. We also learn from Mr. Allen, that the East India Company is taking measures to publish a large work on the antiquities of every part of India, the preparation of which is entrusted to learned antiquarians and skilful artists; that the Company will also soon publish an edition of one of the Vedas—by which we shall be able to trace the religious history of the Hindoos.

Rev. Eli Smith, of Syria, has communicated to the Oriental Society, a collection of Arab popular songs, made by himself. The interesting anthology is yet to be translated. Mr. S. has also a valuable MS. history of the Conqueror of India, a contemporary of Mahmud, and several in relation to the Druse and Ismailey regions. The missionaries are becoming the instruments of making the old and the new world better acquainted with each other. Their labors are fraught with interesting fruits.—*Congregational Journal*.

A NEW BIBLE.—(*By a Colporteur*.)—A young German, to whom I sold a volume, told me, that when in Austria, away from his home, he purchased a Bible, and after his return read it with his brother. They soon ascertained that Popery could not be the true Christianity as it was not the religion of the Bible. On enquiring of the priest about it, he replied, "Oh, you have that old Bible from the apostles' time; we have now got a new one." They told him that if he had got a different Bible from the one the apostles had, it certainly could not be the right one. They afterwards became Protestants; one of

them now lives in P. Co., and is a good Christian.

PRAYING AND GIVING.—The venerable father Sewall of Maine, once entered a meeting in behalf of foreign missions, just as the collectors of the contributions were resuming their seats. The chairman of the meeting requested him to lead in prayer. The old gentleman stood, hesitatingly, as if he had not heard the request. It was repeated in a louder voice; but there was no response. It was observed, however, that Mr. S. was fumbling in his pockets, and presently he produced a piece of money, which he deposited in the contribution-box. The chairman, thinking he had not been understood, said loudly, "I did not ask you to give, Father Sewall; I asked you to pray." "O, yes," he replied, "I heard you, but I can't pray till I've given something."—*American Messenger*.

MACAULAY'S HISTORY.—Mr. Macaulay's "History" is out of print. Three thousand copies—the number of the first edition—are already sold; and a second edition—it is said an improved one—is already in the press. The rumour runs that the author has sold his two volumes for ten years, to the Messrs. Longman, for an annuity of £600 for that period. Let us add to this pleasing account of the book-market, that 18,000 copies of Mr. Dickens's Christmas story were sold on the first day of publication.—*Athenaeum*.

CAPTAIN PAKENHAM.—The *Galway Vindicator* says:—"Capt. Pakenham, cousin of the Duke of Wellington and of Lord Longford, tired of the sea, has settled near Lucca, and is circulating Bibles and tracts. The captain does not scruple to preach that the Pope is antichrist."

NEW TELEGRAPHIC FEAT.—An apparatus has been contrived in Boston for spreading fire alarms by ringing the bells by telegraph. Last month, the telegraphic operator in New York, at a given signal, tolled the fire-bell in Boston, and created an alarm through the city.

COLPORTAGE BY THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS.—The statistics for the last four years show that two hundred and seventy students have been employed by the Tract Society an aggregate period of 534 months. They have visited 108,000 families, embracing half a million souls. Their sales amount to 126,478 volumes, of the value of more than \$30,000, and their grants to 37,894 volumes, exceeding \$6,000 in pecuniary value. Fully \$10,000 have been paid them for service, which has furnished that measure of aid in their self-denying efforts to enter the ministry.—*American Messenger*.